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Dawson, William H. *The Evolution of Modern Germany.* Pp. xvi, 503.
New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1908.

Propagandist literature concerning Germany has appeared on all sides and it is satisfying to find in this book a gathering together of facts which aims to show merely what the developments have been rather than to prove a thesis. The author shows the remarkable industrial advance of Germany but indicates that this has been possible because of low wage costs and long hours of labor. The relation of capital and labor at present is sketched leading to the conclusion that the cost of living is increasing and that the organization progressing in the ranks of German labor will take away from Germany any peculiar advantage in production.

The labor movement has brought great tension in the relation to employers. The law has yielded to the demands of the workers to the extent of practically legalizing the boycott in most of the states. The different classes of labor organizations and the efforts at industrial consolidation through them and independently by them are discussed. The results so far are indecisive.

The various phases of state activity receive commendation. Nationalization and municipalization have not curbed individual enterprise and the debts, so far as they represent productive investments, are well in hand. The development of internal waterways is commended.

The latter part of the book reviews the German colonial experience. Over-sea possessions are shown to be a costly luxury. No German colony except Togo is as yet self-supporting and the future holds no bright promise. The colonization has uniformly been followed by extravagance in expenditure and cruel treatment of the aborigines. The discussion has here an English tinge in spite of the author's evident desire to be fair. The last two chapters dealing with Socialism and the Polish question show that these factors in German life are not so much elements to cause alarm as disappointment. Force has come to be more and more the characteristic of German government. The old humanitarian civilization has given way to the militant industrial state which works for uniformity at the same time as obedience. This attitude accentuates the class struggle and the race struggle. Throughout the book, indeed, there are evidences that the author thinks the present Germany a much less livable country than it was in the time when industry, trade and foreign commerce played a less important rôle in the national life.

No single volume can adequately treat the subject of this work. Mr. Dawson has succeeded, however, in putting in readable form a mass of information which will prove valuable to every student of industrial advance and international affairs

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